



United States Department of the Interior

KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBJECT: KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE OPEN TO SNOWMACHINES

Acting Refuge Manager Doug Staller announced today that portion of Kenai National Wildlife Refuge will be open to snowmachine use effective 12:01 a.m. on January 26, 2010. All traditional areas of the refuge will be open; closed areas include the Headquarters tract on Ski Hill Road, Skilak Loop Special Management Area, Swanson River and Swan Lake Canoe Systems, Wolf Lake pipeline corridor, and areas above timberline except Caribou Hills. The following map indicates closed areas, but users are encouraged to contact the Refuge Headquarters if unsure of boundaries.

The Refuge is asking all snowmachine users to be respectful of their surroundings and avoid the few areas that still have insufficient snow accumulation. Users should also try to avoid moose and other wildlife whenever possible.

Staller advises that snowmachine users be careful in areas with less snow accumulation. Rocks and tree stumps can be potentially hazardous. In addition, some water bodies may not be sufficiently frozen to be safe for snowmachine use. For more information, please contact Refuge Headquarters at (907) 262-7021, online at <http://kenai.fws.gov>, or visit the Refuge staff on Ski Hill Road in Soldotna.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov

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Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Snowmobile Map

The use of snowmobiles for racing, wildlife harassment, or habitat destruction is prohibited.

Refuge Headquarters
Area closed to snowmobiles
(Not to scale)



Snowmobiling within the Refuge may be authorized December 1 through April 30 by announcement through the newspaper and radio only when snow depth is sufficient to protect underlying vegetation and terrain.

If snow conditions become insufficient at any time after snowmobiling is authorized, the Refuge Manager can close the season through the same types of announcements.

